

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

State General Reserve (State Ranking Tool Template)

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> State General Reserve (State Ranking Tool Template)		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>		<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Are the offered acres within the drainage area of a stream segment or waterbody that is listed in the State 2012 Water Quality Integrated Report, Appendix A, AND the EQIP contract will include practices targeted at improving the water quality of runoff from the offered acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Do the offered cropland acres consist of a predominance of soils with a surface layer K factor equal to or greater than .37 and the EQIP contract will include practice(s) that have a positive benefit on soil erosion - sheet and rill?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Are the offered acres located within the drainage area of a scenic stream (that portion designated by the State as scenic) and the EQIP contract will include practice(s) that target the reduction of non-point-source pollution?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Are the offered acres located within a parish listed as significant Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species and/or high priority Candidate Species Habitat and the EQIP contract will include practice(s) that will benefit the habitat for the identified T&E species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the EQIP contract treatment include a Waste Storage Facility, Composting Facility, Waste Treatment Lagoon, or Conveyance Pipeline that requires the development and implementation of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does the EQIP contract treatment include the establishment of one or more of the following rare or declining habitats: Longleaf Pine and/or “native” herbaceous vegetation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Sustainable Ag & Forestry: Has the EQIP applicant started the process to participate in a sustainable agriculture or forestry program by completing either of the following: (a) Phase 1 of the Master Farmer Program (applies only if applicant has not progressed beyond Phase 1); OR (b) Development of a Forest Management Plan and initiated application to the American Tree Farmer Program or Sustainable Forestry Initiative, but have not yet been "certified" as a participant (A copy of the Forest Management Plan and started application packet must be provided to NRCS for verification purposes)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Sustainable Ag & Forestry: Has the participant progressed in participation of a sustainable agriculture or forestry program by completing either of the following: (a) Phase 1 and 2 of the Master Farmer Program; OR (b) Certification in the American Tree Farmer Program or Sustainable Forestry Initiative (A copy of the certification certificate must be provided to NRCS for verification purposes)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will the offered acres be within a EQIP contract that will include irrigation practice(s) that result in a net savings of ground and surface water resources?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will the EQIP contract include installation of “Buffer” practices such as Field Border, Filter Strip, Grassed Waterway, Riparian Forest Buffer, or Riparian Herbaceous Cover, and/or practices to establish the buffer such as Conservation Cover or Tree and Shrub Establishment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Will the EQIP contract include treatment of “Classic Gully(s)” with one or more of the following erosion control practices: Critical Area Planting; Grade Stabilization Structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Does the EQIP contract include conversion of land use from cropland to pasture or hayland; or conversion	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

of cropland, hayland or pastureland to forestland?	
13. Will the EQIP contract include the treatment of noxious and invasive plants (invasive woody species) on land being utilized for grazing or forage production through Brush Management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Has a Resource Management System (RMS) level plan been developed prior to application on the EQIP offered acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Will the implementation of the EQIP practices result in the completion of a conservation system at the Resource Management System (RMS) level on the entire operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. Does the applicant have an active EQIP contract with practices/items that are behind schedule and in non-compliance, or has had a contract terminated due to non-compliance within the past 12 months?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the EQIP contract treatment assist the applicant with the development and/or Implementation of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) on a Confined Animal Feeding Operation that has been in operation less than one year?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the EQIP contract treatment assist the applicant with the development and/or Implementation of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) on a Confined Animal Feeding Operation that has been in operation one year or longer?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does the EQIP contract treatment include the establishment of a Wildlife Buffer (at least one chain in width from the waterline) around a pond and the buffer and pond will be fenced to exclude livestock?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does the EQIP contract treatment include the implementation of "Precision Agriculture", "with" Yield Monitor, though Nutrient Management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the EQIP contract treatment include the implementation of "Precision Agriculture", "without" Yield Monitor, though Nutrient Management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Are the offered acres within the Chicot Aquifer and the EQIP contract will include irrigation practice(s) that result in a net savings of ground and surface water resources?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does the EQIP contract treatment include the implementation of one or more conservation practices that will make up and be operated as a complete Tailwater Recovery System, as specified in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide, practice code 447?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Does the EQIP contract include Irrigation Water Management and the use of the "Phaucet" program to prescribe irrigation and improve water use efficiency?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will the EQIP contract treatment assist the applicant in increasing the pasture condition score from a Category 1 to a Category 4?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will the EQIP contract treatment assist the applicant in increasing the pasture condition score from a Category 2 to a Category 4?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Will the EQIP contract treatment assist the applicant in increasing the pasture condition score from a Category 3 to a Category 4?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Will the EQIP contract include practices that facilitate Prescribed Grazing (528)? (including one or more of the following: Fence, Pipeline, Watering Facility)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Will the EQIP contract include the practice Fence in order to facilitate Access Control (472).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Will the EQIP contract include the eradication of Cogon grass on eligible land through Herbaceous Weed Control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Will the EQIP contract include vegetation manipulation on forestland through prescribed burning or Forest Stand Improvement (chemical application) in order to promote the growth of beneficial herbaceous vegetation for wildlife food and cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. Will the EQIP contract include the establishment of native wildlife friendly species (as identified in the NRCS FOTG, Upland Habitat Management (645) or Wetland Habitat Management (644))?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. Will the EQIP contract include erosion control practices that benefit water quality - suspended sediments and turbidity in surface water, through the treatment of gully erosion and/or permanent cover establishment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. Does the offered acres include Highly Erodible Cropland as determined by the CPA-026 determination, AND will the implementation of the EQIP practices significantly reduce erosion on the HEL acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. Will the EQIP contract include one or more erosion control practices as needed and associated with Irrigation Land Leveling (i.e. Grade Stabilization Structure, Filter Strip, Grass Waterway)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

20. Will implementation of the EQIP contract items result in a positive Soil Condition Index (SCI) that is .1 higher than the benchmark SCI?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
21. Will implementation of the EQIP contract items result in a positive Soil Condition Index (SCI) that is .2 higher than the benchmark SCI?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. Will implementation of the EQIP contract items result in a positive Soil Condition Index (SCI) that is at least .3 higher than the benchmark SCI?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. Will the implementation of the EQIP contract and associated planned practices result in the status of planned and applied for one or more of the following: Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management; Upland Wildlife Habitat Management; Irrigation Efficiency Practice(s); and/or Practices that will protect the resource base on Grazing Land or Forest Land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**Land Use:**

Resource Concerns	Practices
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**Ranking Score**

Efficiency:  Local Issues:  State Issues:  National Issues:  <b>Final Ranking Score:</b>
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

<b>NRCS Representative:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>	<b>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>
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